

## II. Amendments to the Claims

A' 1. (currently amended) A composition ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of an effective amount of a  $\beta$  human chorionic gonadotropin fusion protein ( ~~$\beta$ hCG~~) ~~and/or fusions, fragments or analogs thereof, comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment or analog thereof~~ and a chitosan-based adjuvant, ~~wherein the amount of  $\beta$ hCG ranges from about 10  $\mu$ g to about 500  $\mu$ g.~~

2. (original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the amount of  $\beta$ hCG is about 25  $\mu$ g.

3.-5. (cancelled)

6. (original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the chitosan-based adjuvant comprises an emulsion of chitosan, sodium hydroxide, a biodegradable oil, a surfactant, and an aqueous buffer.

7. (original) The composition of claim 6 wherein the biodegradable oil is squalene.

8. (original) The composition of claim 6 wherein the ratio of  $\beta$ hCG proteins and/or fusions, fragments or analogs thereof to adjuvant is in the range of about 1:20 (w:w) to about 1:1500 (w/w).

9. (original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the adjuvant comprises chitosan, a metal salt, and an aqueous buffer.

10. (original) The composition of claim 9 wherein the metal salt is selected from the group consisting of zinc acetate, nickel sulfate, and copper sulfate.

11. (withdrawn)

12. (original) The composition of claim 4 1 wherein the  $\beta$  human chorionic gonadotropin fusion protein consists of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2  
~~recombinant  $\beta$ hCG comprises a fusion protein consisting essentially of a  $\beta$ hCG protein or fragment or analog thereof joined to a  $\beta$ -galactosidase protein or fragment thereof.~~

A'   
Cord  
13.-58. (withdrawn)

---